Ex. Doc. No. 15.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 19.]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DRY DOCK AT NEW YORK.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,

TRANSMITTING

A copy of a communication from the chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks in relation to the dry dock at New York.

JANUARY 4, 1848.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, December 24, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of a communication from the chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks relative to the dry dock at New York; and earnestly recommend the appropriation suggested by him, for immediate use, or authority to use so much of any other appropriation which can spare it, in anticipation of the next fiscal year, with direction to refund it out of the appropriation for the dock.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. Y. MASON.

To the Chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs, House of Representatives.

> Bureau of Yards and Docks, December 22, 1847.

Sin: I respectfully take leave to call your attention to the dry dock at New York, and to the present state of the appropriation for that object, which is nearly exhausted. The amount remaining

in the treasury not being sufficient to take us through this month, I most earnestly recommend that Congress be asked to make an

appropriation of \$150,000 as soon as may be practicable.

More than three-fourths of the foundation are now completed, and it is most important that its further progress should not be retarded for want of funds. If an early appropriation be not made, the work must be stopped and disastrous consequences may ensue.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOS. SMITH.

Hon. J. Y. Mason, Secretary of the Navy.